

CLAIMS

- 1 1. A method for protecting a computing device from potentially harmful code in a
2 document, the method comprising:
3 providing one or more definitions of potentially harmful active content in an
4 editable text file;
5 comparing the document with each definition of potentially harmful active
6 content in the editable text file to identify potentially harmful active content within the
7 document; and
8 modifying the document to render harmless any identified potentially harmful
9 active content before presenting the document to the computing device.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising syntactically examining the document and
2 placing the document in a valid form before comparing the document with each
3 definition.
- 1 3. The method of claim 1, further comprising transmitting the modified document to the
2 computing device over a network after the potentially harmful active content is rendered
3 harmless.
- 1 4. The method of claim 3, wherein each definition is listed in the text file in a same
2 language structure and schema as the document.
- 1 5. The method of claim 3, further comprising mapping each of the identified elements in the
2 data file into a same language and schema as the document.

- 1 6. The method of claim 1, further comprising representing the document as a first document
2 object model (DOM) tree and the configuration file as a second DOM tree.
- 1 7. A computing system, comprising:
2 an editable configuration file listing one or more definitions of active content to
3 be filtered from documents;
4 a comparator comparing each definition in the modifiable configuration file with
5 content in the document to identify active content to be filtered from the document; and
6 a code generator modifying the document to render harmless the identified active
7 content.
- 1 8. The system of claim 7, further comprising a validating parser placing the document in
2 valid form before the comparator compares the document with each definition in the
3 editable configuration file.
- 1 9. The system of claim 7, further comprising a mapper converting each definition in the
2 configuration file into a language and schema of the document.
- 1 10. The system of claim 7, wherein the configuration file is an XML file.
- 1 11. An apparatus for protecting a computing device from potentially harmful code in a
2 document, the apparatus comprising:
3 means for providing one or more definitions of potentially harmful active content
4 in an editable text file;

5 means for comparing the document with each definition of potentially harmful
6 active content in the editable text file to identify potentially harmful active content within
7 the document; and

8 means for rendering harmless the potentially harmful active content identified
9 within the document before the document is presented at the computing device.

1 12. The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising means for syntactically examining the
2 document and placing the document in a valid form before comparing means compares
3 the document with each definition.

1 13. The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising means for transmitting the modified
2 document to the computing device over a network after the potentially harmful active
3 content is rendered harmless.

1 14. The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising means for representing the document as a
2 first document object model (DOM) tree and the configuration file as a second DOM
3 tree.

1 15. A computer program product for use with a computer system, the computer program
2 product comprising a computer useable medium having embodied therein program code
3 comprising:

4 program code for providing one or more definitions of potentially harmful active
5 content in an editable text file;

6 program code for comparing the document with each definition of potentially
7 harmful active content in the editable text file to identify potentially harmful active
8 content within the document; and
9 program code for rendering harmless the potentially harmful active content
10 identified within the document before the document is presented to the computing device.

1 16. The computer program product of claim 15, further comprising program code for
2 syntactically examining the document and placing the document in a valid form before
3 the program code compares the document with each definition.

1 17. The computer program product of claim 15, further comprising program code for
2 transmitting the modified document to the computing device over a network after the
3 potentially harmful active content is rendered harmless.

1 18. The computer program product of claim 15, further comprising program code for
2 representing the document as a first document object model (DOM) tree and the
3 configuration file as a second DOM tree.

1 19. A computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave for use with a computer system
2 having a display and capable of generating a user interface through which a user may
3 interact with the computer system, the computer data signal comprising:
4 program code for providing one or more definitions of potentially harmful active
5 content in an editable text file;

- 6 program code for comparing the document with each definition of potentially
7 harmful active content in the editable text file to identify potentially harmful active
8 content within the document; and
9 program code for rendering harmless the potentially harmful active content
10 identified within the document before the document is presented to the computing device.
- 1 20. The computer data signal of claim 19, further comprising program code for syntactically
2 examining the document and placing the document in a valid form before the program
3 code compares the document with each definition.
- 1 21. The computer data signal of claim 19, further comprising program code for transmitting
2 the modified document to the computing device over a network after the potentially
3 harmful active content is rendered harmless.
- 1 22. The computer data signal of claim 19, further comprising program code for representing
2 the document as a first document object model (DOM) tree and the configuration file as a
3 second DOM tree.